Workshop on Development of Ground Water in Critical and Semi-Critical Areas.

3553. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a National Workshop on 'Development of Groundwater in Critical and Semi-critical areas' was held on 14th January, 1994 ;

(b) if so, whether all the participants in the workshop called for a need for a fully rational approach and strategy for the development of groundwater resources to ensure its availability on a sustainable basis ;

(c) if so, what were the other points raised by the participants in the Workshop ;

(d) whether the Ministry informed that as per the assessment made, out of 4,568 blocks in the country oil except Gujarat and Maharashtra have fallen in 'dark and grey category' ;

(e) if so, what were the concrete suggestions made in the Workshop; and

(f) what steps are being taken to implement the suggestions

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Work-shop was however, held on 11-12 January, 1994.

(b) The participants in the Workshop resolved on the need of research work for proving the sustainability of dug/bore wells in hard rock areas which have limit ed water storage capabilities.

(c) The other main points raised in the Workshop related to use of modelling techniques as management tool in critical area ; assessment of resources based on water level fluctuations; monitoring of water quality ; water use efficiency system ; Ground Water legislation ; and conservation augmentation and protection of ground water resources ; etc.

(d) The participants were informed that as per the assessment made by the Central Ground Water Board out of 4568 blocks in the country (except Gujarat and Maharashtra), 257 blocks have fallen in 'Dark' and 361 blocks in 'Grey' category. In Maharashtra, out of 1481 watersheds 34 and 57 watersheds have fallen into 'Dark' anl 'Grey' category respectively. In Gujarat, out of 183 Taluks 18 and 14 Taluks respectively have fallen into 'Dark' and 'Grey' category.

(e) The main suggestions made during the workshop were reflected in the recommendations adopted at the workshop which relate to (i) the need to use modelling techniques as management tool in critical areas ; (ii) the assessment of resources henceforth to be based on water level fluctuations, (iii) monitoring of water quality, (iv) the need for water use efficiency system, (v) Ground Water legislation, (vi) conservation and augmentation and protection of ground water resources etc.

(f) The rerommendations adopted in the Workshop have been circulated by the Central Ground Water Board to State Governments for suitable action.

जल परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाएं

3554. श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में कुल कितनी जल परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाएं हैं और वे कहां-कहां स्थित हैं; और

(ख) क्या भूमिगत जल के लिए किए गए परीक्षण के परिणाम की जानकारी किसानों को कृषि उत्पादन के लिए उपलब्ध कराई जाती है और यदि हां, तो उसकी प्रक्रिया क्या है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० के० थुंगन) : (क) केन्द्रीय भूमि जल बोर्ड की 12 रसायन प्रयोगशालाएं हैं, जो लखनऊ, चण्डीगढ़, जयपुर